

Serial No.: 09/840,569
Conf. No.: 2994

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Art Unit: 2154

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 18-31 were previously pending in this application. Claim 30 was objected to and all of the other claims were rejected. By this amendment, Applicant is canceling claims 18-29 and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 30 has been rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of claim 27 from which it depended. Thus, claim 30 is allowable.

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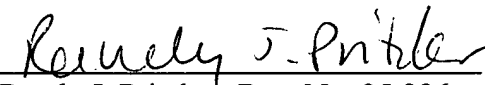
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CONCLUSION

A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below if this communication does not place the case in condition for allowance.

If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee occasioned by this response, including an extension fee, that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,
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